RESPONSE UNDER STUTE EXPEDITED PROCEDURES

EXPEDITED GROUP 1723

Navy Case No. 82,918

PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Corres. and Mail

William M. Appleman, et al. : Group Art Unit: 1723

Serial No. 09/879,870

: Examiner: Krishnan S. Menon

Filed: June 13, 2001

For: ARRANGEMENT AND CONSTRUCTION OF AN ELEMENT BUNDLING MODULE

RECEIVED

AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 116

DEC 2 3 2002

Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

TC 1700

Sir:

In response to the Final Office action dated Dec,. 2, 2002, amendment of the above identified application is proposed as follows:

CLEAN VERSION OF AMENDMENTS

TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph numbered [0015] bridging pages 5 and 6, from line 17 on page 5 through line 8 on page 6, as follows:

As shown in FIG. 5, a plurality of the elements 20 to be bundled in close parallel [0015]spaced relation to each other are disposed in their desired relative positions within a body of uncured epoxy resin from which one of the holding discs 24 is separately formed within one of the seal rings 22 before assembly within a module 10. The epoxy resin in the uncured fluent state will fill all spaces between the axial end portions of the elements 20 to be bounded within the inner diameter of the annular seal ring 22. Positioning of the filter elements 20 during the latter